GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:485
ANSWERED ON:07.07.2004
EXTRADITION OF AKSHARDHAM CONSPIRATOR
Paraste Shri Dalpat Singh

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether Abu Hamza, an absconder in the chargesheet filed by the Crime Branch and the main conspirator of the attack on Akshardham temple in Gandhinagar in September 2002, was arrested in Britain on terror charges;

(b) if so, whether the Union Government has initiated efforts to seek Scotland Yard`s help for his extradition; and

(c) if so, the details in this regard alongwith the reaction of the British Government in the said matter?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI E. AHAMED)

(a) According to information obtained from agencies concerned, Abu Hamza @ Abdul Bari of Hyderabad was the main conspirator for the attack in Akshardham Temple, Gandhinagar in September 2002. However, this Abu Hamza @ Abdul Bari is not the same person as Abu Hamza who has been arrested recently in UK on terrorism charges. The Abu Hamza arrested in UK is not connected with the Akshardham conspiracy.

(b) & (c) Does not arise.